

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-16, without prejudice.

Please enter new claims 20-26 as follows:

20(New). A method of identifying ligands that modulate a *Drosophila* membrane sodium channel, which comprises:

(a) co-expressing *para* and *tipE* in a host cell selected from the group consisting *Xenopus* oocytes and a cell from a multicellular organism, wherein the host cell expresses a voltage-activated sodium current.

(b) contacting the host cell with a ligand;

and,

(c) measuring the resulting voltage-activated current.

21(New). The method of claim 20, wherein the host cell is a *Xenopus* oocyte and expression of *para* and *tipE* occurs after coinjection of *para* and *tipE* RNA.

22(New). The method of claim 20, wherein the host cell is from multicellular organism and expression occurs after an isolated DNA molecule encoding *para* and an isolated DNA molecule encoding *tipE* genes are introduced into the host cell.

23(New). The method of claim 20 further comprising comparing resulting voltage activated current to the current produced prior to contacting the host cell with the ligand.

24(New). The method of claim 21 wherein said *para* RNA is encoded by the DNA molecule as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7.

25(New). The method of claim 22 wherein said isolated DNA molecule which expresses *para* is as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7.

26(New). The method of claim 23 wherein said isolated DNA molecule which expresses *para* is as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7.